Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

1836. *Dec.* 16. (Present, 23. DuPonceau in the Chair.)

Donations for the Library from three Societies and four persons.

For the Cabinet, a specimen of the new coinage of the *American Dollar*, by Dr. Patterson, who described the devices. A specimen of *medal ruling*, from Asa Spencer.

Committee of Finance reported the Account of John Vaughan, Treasurer American Philosophical Society, December 16, 1836:

1. Magellanic fund balance in hand	$175 40
2. Rittenhouse " " "	73 65
	$249 05
3. Magellanic extra fund, Interest & Account balanced by payment to Isaac Lea, Treas. Pub. Fund.	
4. General account in hands of Treasurer	$477 67

Necrological notice of Judge Tait, read by Mr. Lea, and filed away.

Appropriations for 1836: Hall, $150; Binding, $100; Journals, $200; Current expenses, $200.

Transactions American Philosophical Society: Mr. Fisher described the *first form* in which they were published, viz., as an Appendix to the American Magazine, printed in 1769; and exhibited copies containing the Transactions American Philosophical Society.

1837. *Jan'y* 6. (Present, 17. Chapman in the Chair; DuPonceau, Dr. Bache, Kane, Vaughan, Espy, Major Bache, Lukens, McIlvaine, Dunglison, T. R. Peale, Hays, Nuttall, Pickering, Tyson, Emerson, Sully.)

ANNUAL ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

Annual Election of Officers held in the afternoon, reported:

President—DuPonceau.

Vice-Presidents—Chapman, J. Hopkinson, Patterson.

Secretaries—F. Bache, Kane, A. D. Bache, Meigs.

Councillors—N. Biddle, T. Biddle, Mease, Emerson.

Councillor for one year, vice W. Rawle, deceased, J. T. Fisher.

Curators—Lea, Wetherill, Hays.

Treasurer—Vaughan.

Donations of books from one academy and three persons.

Nominations for membership Nos. 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, read.

Committee appointed to consider the advancement of Meteorology in the United States: Espy, Kane, DuPonceau, Patterson, Emerson.

1837. *Jan'y* 20. (Present, 17. Judge Hopkinson in the Chair.)

Secretary Institute of France acknowledged receipt of Transactions, Vol. V, ii.

Donations from one Academy and six persons.

Committee on Meteorology reported, and were discharged, "the subject having been generally referred to a joint Com. of this Society & the Franklin Institute." Kane and Dunglison were added to the Joint-Committee.

A letter from Chief Justice Gibson, March, 1823, to G. W. Featherstonehaugh, was postponed.

Standing Committees appointed:

Finance—C. C. Biddle, Ord, McIlvaine.

Publication—Lea, Hays, Fisher.

Hall—Strickland, Kane, Vaughan.

Library—Ord, Pickering, Hays.

Librarian elected: John Vaughan.

Catalogue of surviving members "read over."

Death of Wm. Marsden, announced by Mr. Fisher.

Election of new members postponed for want of a quorum.

1837. *Feb'y* 3. (Present, 20. DuPonceau in the Chair.)

Granville Penn's thanks for election to membership, read.

Donations from three societies and seven persons.

"On the consubstantiality of the limestone of the Valley of the Mississippi with the Lias," in a letter from Chief Justice Gibson, was read and referred to Nuttall, Rogers, Lea.

"Observations on bills of mortality with hints for their improvement," by Dr. Mease, was read and referred to Emerson, Chapman, Morgan.

Committee on Astronomical Observatory reported "that the appropriate Com." of City Councils are prepared to apply $2500 to the purchase of Astronomical Instruments, "as soon as the Society shall be prepared to make an appropriation of equal amount." Committee continued.

Nomination No. 15 was read.

1837. *Feb'y* 17. (Present, 14. DuPonceau in the Chair.)

Donations from three societies and seven persons.

Also, for the Cabinet, "Casts of a series of the *Trilobites* of N. A.," from Jos. Brown of Philadelphia; and "a series of specimens of the *gold rocks* of Burke Co., N. C.," from H. Terry, of Hartford, Conn.

Committee on Astronomical Observations reported progress.

Committee on Dr. Mease's "Observations on bills of mortality" reported and were discharged; the author receiving "liberty to withdraw the paper from the files."

Nominations Nos. 16 and 17 were read.

1837. *March* 3. (Present, 21. DuPonceau in the Chair.)

Donations from six persons.

Transactions Vol. V, last part (printed) presented by the Publication Committee.

Committee on Finance reported investments of $1800, "recently in the Treasurer's hand," in the Lehigh 6 per cent Loan of 1839, "the investment producing a certificate for the sum of $1313.13."

Obituary notice of Chief Justice Marshall read by Judge Hopkinson, and referred to Chapman, Patterson and Kane.

Committee on Astronomical Observations reported "at length." Report adopted.

"Contributions to the Geology of the Tertiary Formation of Virginia," by H. D. & W. B. Rogers, was read by H. D. Rogers, and referred to Lea, Hays and Ord.

Megalonyx bones: The Hunterian Museum's request (per letter of Dr. Warren, of Boston, to Dr. Horner) for permission to take casts, was referred, with power, to the Curators.

Committee on Astronomical Observatory was, on motion of Mr. Kane, discharged, and a *new committee of five* appointed, and empowered "to collect and apply the funds . . . . destined to the use of the proposed OBSERVATORY, and . . . . represent the Society in all matters connected therewith:" Patterson, T. Biddle, Kane, Espy and Lukens. Papers and moneys in the hands of the late Committee to be transferred to the new Committee.

"*Resolved,* That the Society hereby transfers to the Com., now appointed all such Astronomical and other Instruments in its possession as may, in the judgment of the Com., be available for the purpose of the Observatory."

"On motion of Dr. Patterson, the following Resolution was adopted:"

[In the blank space left for it, is written in lead pencil in the autograph of Judge Kane: "Resolution (J. K. K. thinks) requested Trustees of the Univer. Penna. to give the use of their Astronl. Instrts. to the new Observatory. This Resolution has been mislaid."]

Obituary Notices on file were referred to the Committee on Marshall's memoir.

"Dr. Patterson submitted the following resolution, which was adopted:"

[In blank space, lead pencil note: "This Resolution has been mislaid."]

Nomination No. 18 read and placed on file.

Death of M. Barbé de Morbois, an early member of the

Society, at the age of ninety-five years, was announced by Mr. Fisher, and "Mr. DuPonceau was appointed to prepare the usual obituary notice."

1837. *March* 17. (Present, 21. DuPonceau in the Chair.)

Donations of books from two societies, and ten persons.

Committee of Finance: McIlvaine resigned; Dr. Patterson appointed in his place (later in the evening).

Committee on Gibson's geological paper "reported against its publication;" adopted.

Death of Chevalier Lorich, March 11, was reported by the President, and Mr. Raguet appointed "to prepare the usual obituary notice."

Death of Dr. Francis Blanchet, of Quebec, reported by Dr. Bache.

Godman's TETRACAULODON, a genus "the authenticity of which has been doubted by some members of the Society," Dr. Hays announced "has been recognized by Prof. Kaup of Darmstadt, & a species of the genus has been discovered at Epplesheim, near Altzey, about 12 leagues south of Mayence."

"Dr. Patterson showed a piece of *Coin* which had been expanded to an extraordinary degree under the press in consequence of the surface of the planchet being slightly covered with oil, and explained the cause of this occurrence."

The *Great Storm* of December 20, 1836, which passed over Philadelphia, was described by Mr. Espy in "some remarks on its progress."

1837. *April* 6.* (Present, 21. DuPonceau in the Chair.)

M. Roux de Rochelle's letter of thanks read.

Royal Irish Academy's letter of acknowledgment for donations.

Donations of books from three societies and ten persons.

* Error in minutes for April 7.

Marshall's MSS. Circuit Court Decisions: All the originals presented "by Dr. Chapman in behalf of John Brockenbrough Esqre of Richmond."

Ascending Storms: "Mr. Espy & Dr. Hare communicated certain facts illustrative of the theory that Storms are produced by rapidly ascending currents of air, & discussed the question of the causes by which such currents are occasioned."

Library Committee "instructed to receive from the Librarian the *Books purchased by Mr. Ord in Paris*, pursuant to a resolution passed 16th July, 1830, & on the reception of the same, to report the fact to the Society."

1837. *April* 21. (Present, 31. DuPonceau in the Chair; Patterson, Kane, F. Bache, Vaughan, Lea, Hays, Sergeant, Ord, Dunglison, Emerson, Carey, Tanner, Dunn, Pickering, Espy, Nuttall, Randolph, Lukens, T. Peale, McIlvaine, Mease, Raguet, C. C. Biddle, Strickland, Nicklin, Wood, Tyson, Harlan, Hare, Fisher.)

Letters acknowledging donations were received from four societies.

Donations from two societies and eight persons.

Committee on Obituary notices reported; consideration postponed.

Election of members proceeded. Nomination 13 "withdrawn in consequence of the absence of the gentlemen by whom it was signed."

Joint Committee on Meteorology was "authorized as far as this Society is concerned to take order upon & carry into effect the late *law* passed by the Legislature of Penn. for the promotion of Meteorology."

Death of Ed. Turner announced by Dr. Bache.

New members elected: George Campbell, of Philadelphia; John G. Crosse, Norwich, England; Jared Sparkes [*sic*], Boston; C. R. Leslie, London; J. C. Pritchard, M.D., F.R.S.,

Bristol, England; T. L. Winthrop, Boston; G. Tucker, University of Virginia.

1837. *May* 5. (Present, 27. DuPonceau in the Chair.)

Letter of acknowledgment from the Society of Arts.

Donations from six persons.

Committee on Obituaries. Report considered. Resolution No. 1 adopted, *i. e.* Committee appointed:

1. "To select from the entire list of deceased members, the names of those who in their judgment present a prominent claim to an obituary notice.
2. "To prepare such as exist for the press, abridging them if necessary, but in no case making any alteration . . . . without the consent of the author, if he can be consulted.
3. "To prepare such as do not exist by correspondence with the family, &c.
4. "To report proceedings to the Society for approval."

Committee: Fisher, Kane, Patterson, Tyson, Emerson.

Resolution No. 2 was laid on the table.

Dr. Pickering was permitted to borrow last two Vols. Berlin Transactions for the use of the Exploring Expedition.

Catalogue of books purchased by Mr. Ord in Paris was reported by the Library Committee, who recommended that $167.04 advanced for them by Mr. Vaughan should be refunded to him. So ordered.

Nomination for membership No. 19 was read.

1837. *May* 19. (Present, 17. DuPonceau in the Chair.)

M. Macedo, Perp. Sec. Lisbon Academy, Mr. Winthrop, and Mr. Tucker, "severally acknowledged the honor of membership," by letters. Letters acknowledging Vols. of Transactions American Philosophical Society were received from Harvard University and Chev. Morelli "in behalf of the King of the Two Sicilies." Donations of books from one society and nine persons.

"On the Changes of Color in Birds & Quadrupeds," by the Rev. John Bachman, was read and referred to Nuttall, T. Peale, Ord.

Nomination for membership No. 20 was read.

Committee on Obituary Notices: Emerson resigned.

"On some points of science connected with Meteorology," verbal communication made by Dr. Hare.

1837. *June* 16. (Present, 17. DuPonceau in the Chair.)

Donations of books from four societies and nine persons.

Committee on Bachman's paper reported it for publication.

Death of Dr. Abiel Holmes announced; Mr. Sparks appointed, &c.

"On a Self-regulating Reservoir for Chlorine, contrived by him;" "On the artificial generation of Ammonia;" "On the formation of an Ink without grounds, by digesting the infusion of galls on finery cinder;" "On a rotary galvanic multiplier;" all verbally communicated by Dr. Hare.

1837. *July* 21. (Present, 20. Duponceau in the Chair.)

Donations of books from two societies and seven persons.

"On new species of Fresh-water shells," by Mr. Lea, read and referred to the Committee on his former papers.

Tube telegraph: "Dr. Mease mentioned a mode of communicating orders through tubes of the length of more than 3000 feet in the Government Offices in London."

"*A metallic pen*, the body of Palladium, the point an alloy of Osmium & Iridium, brought from London by Mr. Saxton," was exhibited and described by Dr. Patterson.

New member elected: Wm. Jenks, D.D., of Boston.

Dr. Patterson offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

WHEREAS, Public attention is at present much directed to the subject of Meteorology, in which many important facts have been recently estab-

lished, and whereas the Legislature of Pennsylvania has made an appropriation for conducting observations throughout this State, and whereas it is very desirable that such observations should be extended over the whole U. S. therefore,

Resolved, That authority be given to the Joint Committee of the Amer^n Philosophical Society, and the Franklin Institute, so far as this Society is concerned, to apply to Congress for aid to procure Instruments, and establish Observations throughout the United States, should this Committee deem such application desirable.

"On the forms of the trunks of the trees before the State House," a verbal communication made by Dr. Emerson.

1837. *Aug.* 18. (Present, 11. Patterson in the Chair; Chapman, Kane, F. Bache, Vaughan, Hays, Mease, Short, Harlan, Tyson, Ord.)

Donations of books from one society and eight persons.

Mexican Antiquities: Mr. Keating's offer "to deposit some boxes of M. A. belonging to Mr. Chas. Bagley, on certain conditions," was accepted and referred to Keating, Kane and Hays "to carry it into execution."

"Book *of the Laws & Regulations* of the Society, followed by a *List of the members*, &c.," prepared by the Secretaries was exposed for inspection.

"On Mocking birds," by Col. Abert, was read by Dr. Harlan and placed in the Archives.

Nominations for membership Nos. 20 to 24 were read and filed.

Five *Mexican Gold Idols*, the Treasurer was authorized to purchase for $25.

Committee to arrange the *Medals*, *Coins*, &c.: Keating, Kane, Hays and Fisher.

1837. *Sept.* 15. (Present, 21. DuPonceau in the Chair.)

Dr. Pickering's letter of resignation was laid on the table.

Dr. R. Coates' letter, as "Sec. of the Board of Members of the Scientific Corps of the South Sea Expedition," ten-

dered their acknowledgments for assistance from the Society.

Donations of books from two societies and two persons, and for the Cabinet from two persons.

Committee on Lea's paper of July 21, 1837, reported it for publication.

Nomination No. 25 was read and placed on file.

SOUTH SEA EXPEDITION: Dr. Patterson stated that, on the 18th of July last, the Secretary of the Navy had requested the following members of the Society: Duponceau, Patterson, Kane, Vethake, C. C. Biddle, and Ord, to act as a *Commission*, to consider various questions . . . . such as, the proper selection of books, instruments, and materials needed, the distribution of duties among the . . . . Corps, &c. That they had appointed DuPonceau, *Chairman*, and Patterson, *Secretary;* had selected *Committees* to consider the different subjects; had held numerous meetings; and had finally (September 2) presented full reports to the United States Secretary Navy, from whom letters of acknowledgment were now read.

"A concise method of extracting the Cube Root," by T. Maxwell, was referred to Patterson, Vethake and Major Bache.

"The letter of Dr. Pickering was taken up & read, so far as to indicate his intention of resigning his membership; whereupon, on motion, the further reading of the Communication was dispensed with, & his resignation was accepted."

BOOK OF THE CONSTITUTION AND LIST OF MEMBERS: "Dr. Bache presented the bill of Mr. Wm. Fife *for writing the Constitution* & list of members, amounting to $150; and, on motion of Dr. Patterson, an order was directed to be drawn in favour of Mr. Fife for that amount."

And another for $10.75, in favor of Mr. Gaskill, for binding the volume.*

* This is the folio MSS. vol. in green linen cover, with the names of members in German text.—J. P. L.

1837. *Oct.* 6. (Present, 18. Judge Hopkinson in the Chair.)

C. R. Leslie's letter of thanks for membership read.

Donations of books from two societies and seven persons; and to the Cabinet, two specimens of stone found near Mobile, by W. H. Robertson, "a description to be presented hereafter."

"Mr. Vaughan communicated a translation made by Mr. W. B. Hodgson, of a Prayer written in Arabic characters, by Prince Abduhl Rabbahman [*sic*], and represented by him to be a copy of the Lord's Prayer, now in the Society's Collection, from which it appeared, that the Prayer in question is the Tatihat [*sic*] or Introductionary Chapter of the Koran."

Walter R. Johnson's request to borrow for the use of the *South Sea Exploring Expedition*, Pierson's Astronomy, Rennels on Currents, and Ferusac's Cephalopodes, was granted.

Death of Carlo Botta was announced by Dr. Bache.

Death of Dr. John Lewis Tyarks was announced.

Fusing Platinum: "Dr. Hare mentioned that by the aid of his improved [hydrostatic] *Blow-pipe* . . . . he had succeeded in fusing platinum in masses of 10 & 13 ounces avoirdupois," and exhibited a ¾ lb. specimen.

"Mr. Espy mentioned that he was satisfied from information which he had received, that *rains* are occasionally *produced by the fires of large cities*, & that rains are common in London & some other cities of England, while the adjacent country remains dry." "Dr. Hare made some observations confirming & explaining the phenomena referred to by Mr. Espy."

1837. *Oct.* 20. (Present, 37. DuPonceau in the Chair.)

Donations of books from three societies and six persons.

Committee on Maxwell's paper reported against its publication.

Nomination No. 26 was read.

Taylor's Memoirs: Dr. Hare described the "difficulties experienced by American Scientific Men in making known their Scientific Papers in Europe," and recommended, as a vehicle, Richard Taylor's "Collection of Scientific foreign memoirs," published in Red Lion Court, Fleet Street, London.

Dr. Patterson exhibited and explained *Wheatstone's Kaleidophone*, which makes visible the vibrations of an elastic wire.

New members elected: No. 20, S. C. Walker, of Philadelphia; No. 22, Josh. Saxton, of Philadelphia; No. 23, W. M. Meredith, of Philadelphia; No. 24 Thos. Dunlap, of Philadelphia; No. 25, Daniel Webster, of Massachusetts.

1837. *Nov.* 3. (Present, 20. DuPonceau in the Chair; Walker introduced.)

Donations from three societies and five persons.

Nominations Nos. 27, 28, 29 were read.

Kingsbury's Mexican Antiquities: Mr. Vaughan's request for authority to purchase one of the unsold copies (probably to be exposed for sale on account of the death of Lord Kingsbury), was referred to the Library Committee with power to take order.

1837. *Nov.* 17. (Present, 22. DuPonceau in the Chair Saxton introduced.)

Rev. W. Jenks' letter of thanks for membership read.

Donations of books from four societies and six persons; for the Cabinet, from three persons.

The President gave March 9, 1836, as the date of the death of Mr. Tracy, whose death had been announced previously.

Library Committee: Geo. Campbell appointed, vice Dr. Pickering, resigned.

ARCHIVES: Secretaries were "instructed to cause the Records & Documents, connected with the History & Trans-

actions of the Society, to be properly *arranged & bound*, & .... to provide suitable *cases* for their preservation."

1837. *Dec.* 1. (Present, 25. DuPonceau in the Chair; Patterson, Chapman, Kane, Lea, Hays, Vaughan; Col. Biddle, Vethake, Nicklin, Ord, T. Biddle, Condie, H. D. Rogers, Harris, Espy, McIlvaine, Bancker, Fisher, Saxton, Jos. Henry, Campbell, Dunglison, Seybert, Emerson.)

Webster's and Dunlap's letters of thanks, read.

Donations of books from Carey, Milne, the London Medical Society, and several numbers of the London Magazine Natural History in exchange for Transactions American Philosophical Society.

Publication Committee reported the completion and publication (during the past year) of Vol. V (twenty-eight articles, 498 pages and 24 plates); and the printing of a part of Vol. VI (Lea's Shells: 23 colored plates).

Balance in hands of the Committee's Treasurer, Dec. 3, 1834....		$464 13
Received from Magellanic Publication Fund.....	$1410 50	
Extra appropriation.....	250 00	
Subscriptions and sales.....	756 12	
		$2416 62
To be accounted for.....		$2880 75
Expended for Vol. V.....		1943 12
On hand to pay for Vol. VI.....		$937 63

Number of subscribers, 105; of Exchanges, 62; of copies sold, about 30; total 197 sold. Copies of *New Series* on hand: Vol. I, 213; II, 268; III, 229; IV, 236; V, 286. *Old Series*, out of print.

Amount due and unpaid for Vols. III, IV, V, . . . $207.25.

"An enquiry into the relation existing between light, colour & shadow, containing illustrations adverse to the Newtonian Doctrines," by Dr. J. P. Emmett, University of Virginia, was referred to Patterson, Henry and Vethake.

Nomination No. 30 was read.

1837. *Dec.* 15. (Present, 27. DuPonceau in the Chair; Meredith introduced.)

Donations of books from eight sources; for the Cabinet, from Chief Justice Gibson.

Committee of Finance reported the Treasurer's accounts, and balance in bank to the credit of Treasurer, $835.39. Annual appropriations: For Hall, $150; Binding books, $150; Journals, $200; Current expenses, $250.

The death of Dr. Physick being announced, the following Resolutions, proposed by Dr. Chapman, were adopted:

"*Resolved,* That the Society, sharing in the sensibility of this whole community, are deeply impressed by the loss it has sustained in the death of its distinguished Member, Philip Syng Physick, M.D., not less beloved for the purity of his private Virtues, than celebrated on account of his eminent public services, which, while they raised the reputation of his Profession, added illustration to the Character of his Country.

"*Resolved,* That as a manifestation of their sorrow on the occasion and of respect for his memory, the members of the Seciety, will wear the usual badge of Mourning on the left Arm for thirty days.

"*Resolved,* That they will collectively attend his Funeral, assembling on the day of it in this Hall, and thence to proceed to his late dwelling.

"*Resolved,* That a copy of the foregoing Resolutions, with a letter of condolence from the President of the Society, be transmitted to his Family."

Dr. Horner was appointed to prepare an obituary notice.

Townsend's Collections: Mr. Ord having announced Mr. J. K. Townsend's return from the West, referred to the subscription raised by members of the Society in aid of his enterprise, "on condition that half of the collections after reserving duplicates for himself, should be presented to the Society." Ord, Peale, Patterson were appointed a Committee on the subject.

Nomination No. 31 was read.

Dr. Hays expressed his opinion that Mr. Owen's recent dissections of the *Vultur auro*, and discovery of the extension of its olfactory nerves, proved "the correctness of the formerly generally received opinion of the extraordinary powers of smell of the *Vultur auro.*"

"Mr. Saxton exhibited an *Electro-magnetic machine* for throwing the spark from a battery of a single pair of plates on the construction devised by Prof. Daniel."

1838. *Jan'y* 5. [Here commences the first number of the first volume of the heretofore printed "*Proceedings.*"]